

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AID-10 PRS-01 L-02 IO-03

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R 190900Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8237

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 18216

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: GVN NOTE TO PARIS SIGNATORIES PROTESTING ATTACK

ON BACH MA

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF NOTE DATED OCTOBER 19 FROM GVN TO PARTIES TO ACT OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, CONCERNING COMMUNIST CAPTURE OF BACH MA. NOTE WILL BE MADE PUBLIC SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: NO. 532/BNG. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, SIGNED IN PARIS ON 2ND MARCH 1973, AND HAS THE HONOR TO DRAW THEIR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING.

3. ON 12TH OCTOBER 1973, THE BACH MA OUTPOST LOCATED AT UTMG COORDINATES ZC. 064-927 IN THE DISTRICT OF PHU LOC, 55 KILOMETERS SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF HUE, PROVINCE OF THUA THIEN, WAS ATTACKED BY ELEMENTS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY WHICH SHELLLED THE INSTALLATION AND EVENTUALLY OCCUPIED IT AT NIGHT.

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4. THE ATTACKING FORCES WERE IDENTIFIED AS THE K-4A

BATTALION, 5TH REGIMENT, BELONGING TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY MILITARY REGION OF TRI-THIEN, REGIONAL UNITS COMPOSED OF THE 71ST SPECIAL COMPANY OF PHU-LOC DISTRICT, AND MANY MOBILE UNITS OF THUA-THIEN PROVINCE.

5. THE BACH MA OUTPOST WHICH IS LOCATED AT A MOUNTAIN RESORT HAS BEEN HELD BY UNITS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM SINCE BEFORE THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK, IT WAS MANNED BY THE 1ST COMPANY, 112TH REGIONAL BATTALION.

6. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY ATTACK AGAINST THIS OUTPOST IS ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF KILLING AND WOUNDING SOLDIERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM.

7. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THIS ATTACK BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY COMBINED WITH OTHER ATTACKS AGAINST THE LE MINH BASE ON 22ND SEPTEMBER 1973 AND THE KHIEM HANH DISTRICT ON 29TH SEPTEMBER 1973, CONSTITUTE A PATTERN OF SYSTEMATIC VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIET-NAM. AS THIS ATTACK WAS CARRIED OUT BY A REGULAR UNIT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ARMY, THE COMMUNIST NORTH VIETNAMESE ONCE AGAIN HAVE SHOWN THEIR COMPLETE DISREGARD OF THE COMMITMENTS THAT THEY SOLEMNLY UNDERTOOK IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

8. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM RENEWS ITS APPEAL TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO PUT AN END TO THE VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM SIDE.

9. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DEFEND ITS TERRITORY AND ITS POPULATION, BY ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS.

10. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGH CONSIDERATION.
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SAIGON, 19TH OCTOBER 1973 END QUOTE.
MARTIN

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